

HHS Polling Place Accessibility Grant

Grants Awarded to HAVA:

2003	\$251,048
2004	\$175,350
2005	\$174,040
2006	\$196,432
2007	\$195,858
2008	\$225,109
2009	TBD
TOTAL	\$1,217,837

HAVA grants to Counties:

2003-04	\$ 45,130.12 (survey)
2005	\$ 0.00
2006	\$466,005.05 (equipment)
2007	\$129,274.81 (grants -30 co.)
2008	\$ 28,644.51 (grants – 13 co.)
2009	\$ 25,871.11 (grants – 7 co.)
Training/Ed	\$ 9,788.73
TOTAL	\$704,714.33

Current Balance: \$513,122.67

Accessibility at the Polling Place

In addition to the requirement that all polling places have at least one voting accessible voting machine available for the disabled, HAVA also requires that polling places be physically accessible. In order to meet the goal of full accessibility at the polls, the Indiana Secretary of State partnered with the Indiana Governor's Planning Council for People with Disabilities (IGPCPD) to survey each location during the Municipal Election in 2003 (Marion County only), and the Primary and General Elections in 2004. Members of the disabilities community and their advocates reviewed the accessibility of each of Indiana's 4,500+ polling places and reported deficiencies to each county. The Secretary of State's office contributed over \$45,000 to this endeavor.

County election administrators worked with community leaders to improve the facilities or relocate polling places in order to meet accessibility guidelines. In an effort to assist local governments in these efforts, the Indiana Secretary of State took advantage of a grant awarded by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS Grant) and leveraged the state's buying power by using Quantity Purchase Agreements (QPAs) and procurement options to purchase goods in bulk. These goods, such as parking signs, ramps, and door handles, were distributed to counties by request and used to make critical accessibility upgrades to polling places. Over \$466,000 in products were purchased and distributed to counties in their efforts to improve polling place accessibility.

In recent years, the need to continue to improve the accessibility of polling places has prompted the Secretary of State's office to offer monetary reimbursement grants to counties that improve polling place accessibility for voters. At the end of 2006, 2007 and 2008, monetary grants totaling over \$180,000 were awarded to counties as part of this program.

Poll Worker Training and Public Information

Being aware of HAVA's accessibility requirements and procedures is a major focal point of the state-offered poll worker training procedures and curriculum. Both the Election Day Handbook and poll worker training video devote a chapter to this matter. Accessibility is also a part of the Train-the-Trainer sessions offered by the state's HAVA office to county election administrators each spring and fall. Public service announcements, television advertisements and literature distributed to voters across the state also devote attention to accessibility concerns.